

The Intelligencer.

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P. J. SINCLAIR, EDITOR.

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 1864.

THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.—Much discussion has been indulged in by politicians about the passage of the law suspending the privilege of the writ. Appeals have been made to the Confederate Congress to repeal the law depriving the citizen of this great right, but to no avail. Some of our public journalists have gone so far as to demand, in the event of a refusal upon the part of Congress to repeal this law, that our representatives in Congress withdraw from that body.

Such counsel only tends to weaken the cause of right and involve its advocates in that odium that should attach to revolutionists and extremists. Our readers will bear witness that we have zealously advocated the repeal of the obnoxious and shameful law with all the earnestness of which we were capable, and were it in our power to-day we would with our own hand erase the foul stain from the statute book, that history might forget the dishonor of our country in its enactment. But while we would do this our voice is as earnest, and our feelings as bitterly opposed, to that revolutionary doctrine that would urge on and enflame the passions of the people to a conflict with the Confederate authorities. No good could possibly result from such a course—such evil would undoubtedly follow.

The President calls for the continuation of the suspension of the writ as necessary at this critical juncture of the affairs of our government. We are not prepared to say that he is wrong. He is expected to know much more than we possibly can what is necessary for the well-being of the entire country. It is true that the Constitution gives the power to Congress to suspend the privilege of the writ at just such a time as this, when the nation is invaded. This being the case, we cannot denounce a *constitutional* suspension of the writ, although we would much prefer that the public need did not demand the exercise of that extraordinary power.

We have an objection, however, to the suspension of the writ in the form passed by Congress, because it is repugnant to all our ideas of liberty and security.—

We object to it because it clothes the President with extraordinary power, unwarranted by the Constitution, and repugnant to every lover of liberty. It makes the President judge and jury to try all cases which may effect the liberties of the citizen touching his loyalty, liability to service, and various other omissions and commissions.

It thus places the liberties of the people in the custody of a President, or of an emissary whose tenure of office is at the will of the President. In doing this it deprives the citizen of all constitutional barriers against despotism and reduces him to the very condition of a serf.

It is objected that the President will not abuse the power. That may be so, but we are not prepared to give such power to any man. He may not abuse the power conferred. The use of it is a sufficient abuse. There is no justice, reason or excuse for its exercise as granted by Congress. Had the writ been suspended Constitutionally there could have been no murmur; as it is, the people are alarmed.

MUST HASTEN UP.—The days are not many now, until the meeting of the Baltimore Convention of the Black Republican party in the United States. To us, as out-siders, it would seem to be of little importance whether the Convention is ever held, or who should be the nominee, but we must confess that we feel some interest in it, from the fact that the success of the candidate of that body will materially affect the duration of the war.

We never expect to be governed or ruled over by any President of the Yankee nation, but we do most certainly believe that should a Northern conservative be elected, whether he be McClellan or Seymour of Connecticut, that it will have the effect ultimately to end the war. On the contrary, should Lincoln be re-elected, it will prove that the Northern people are determined, regardless of consequences, to pursue their fruitless efforts indefinitely. Lincoln will justly construe it into an endorsement of his past course, and is fool enough to "run the machine" to perdition.

We agree with our correspondent, in today's paper, that if we can by diplomacy aid the Conservative party in the United States, to elect their candidate, no effort should be left untried to secure this desirable result. The Black Republican party would then become the peace party, advocating the separate independence and nationality of the South.

They would much prefer that the South should be permitted to remain unchallenged in their separate national capacity, than to consent to a reconstruction of the Union with the rights of the South guaranteed.

The Republicans being a strong party, their opposition, added to that of the peace Democrats of the North, would be fatal to the Northern war party, and we believe from the information we have been able to gather, if it should occur that a Conservative President were elected, before his term of office should begin, peace would be declared on the basis of our independence.

DAILY, 1st inst.
Grant has promised his troops that hereafter he will not make them fight the rebels in their works—that he will dig them out.

We wish Grant a happy time of it in his stupendous task. If he attempts to dig from Hanover Town to the defenses of Richmond, he will lose about as many men in the boggs of the Chickahominy as he lost at Spottsylvania Court House.

But Grant finds it necessary to dig.—He has lost, it is said, sixty thousand men, by the unerring aim of our brave Southern boys. Ten thousand will follow in the steps of McClellan's dead, by sickness and disease on the banks of the Chickahominy.

PLAIN COMMON SENSE.—A friend writing to us from a neighbouring town, and who has lately had a long conversation with Vice President Stephens, remarks: "Mr. (Stephens) has the right ideas of Government. I can but endorse his great principles of Republican Government." * * * * * He then goes on to say as follows:

"Fighting will never, never end this war. Our Government is called upon to show as much diplomacy and good statesmanship to effect the overthrow of the Lincoln dynasty this year, as good clearship. It should be the aim of our Government to secure the election of some such man to the Presidency North, as Gen. McClellan. His election would bring about armistice, an armistice would eventually bring peace. Our men and the Lee soldiers would be buroughed home during the armistice, but blood would cool, reason would assume the place of passion, the sober second thought would be almighty, and peace, blessed peace would once more beam upon us. Has our Government brains enough to work statesmanship to such an issue! Diplomacy carried on in the right way in connection with military Generalship might have long ago ended this war, but I very much fear the end is not yet."

Mr. Anderson, at Founds, the accident related in yesterday's *Carolinean*, occurred, informs us that the injury to the negro boy was not so severe as to require amputation of his limb.

Whatever is to be done to save Lincoln must therefore be done quickly. Lincoln fully appreciates all this, and we may consequently look for stirring times on both lines—Georgia and Virginia.

DAILY, 2nd inst.
Mr. Orr, of South Carolina, made a visit at attack in the Senate on General Bragg, two days ago. We think the honorable gentleman might find more useful employment, both to his constituents and to his country, than in picking daws in the conduct of our leading Generals at a critical time like the present.

Lincoln Republican.—We had dreamed of success. Nay, we allowed it within our grasp, but if General Bragg has arisen to the position and eminence of our leading General, we shall be for none and expect none. If it be so that Gen. Bragg is your leading General! God help the one that brings up a rear!

The valuable present referred to as being a Confederate port was a number of machines for boring Whitworth guns.—*Macon Confederate.*

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Erwan-Island Worm.—The Yankees have made a complete destruction of these works, which were situated a few miles above Cartersville. Most of the valuable machinery had been removed to a place of safety.

The Macon Telegraph says that one of the Federal Officers, a prisoner in the jail in that city, gave birth to a fine infant night before last. The Jungs in the Federal army seem to be numerous.

The Field.

We give the following from our exchanges, which will partially explain "the situation" in Virginia and Georgia. The *Intelligencer* of Saturday morning says: During the past two days this army has been doing desultory battle at various points on the line, and during the entire time, with telling effect on the enemy's forces.

We have no comments to make—none are necessary.

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RALPH, N. C., May 27th, 1864.
Gov. VANCE—

Dear Sir: I have learned that in your speech at Smithfield and also at Hillsboro', that you charged W. W. Holden of favoring a Convention for the purpose of withdrawing the State from the Confederacy. As I understand that you made this statement partly on my authority, I feel called upon to state what I heard Mr. Holden say in regard to that matter.

I recollect on one occasion, during the session of the Legislature, last November, in Commons Hall, near the fireplace to the left of the Speaker's desk, of hearing W. W. Holden say, that "the Legislature should call a Convention of the State immediately, and take the State out of the Confederacy," and say, "I make my prediction, in less than six months, you will see that I am right." I was surprised to hear the remark from him. And, as soon as I took my seat, I asked Col. Gentry, who sat just behind me, what he would think of a man, if he was to hear him say that "the Legislature should call a Convention immediately, and withdraw the State from the Confederacy?" He then asked me who might be present, and I told him.

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This is "somebody" in Sherman's camp, who have occupied the enemy's lines, report that great confusion exists among the troops stationed at the rear depots, on account of the general impression that Forrest or Wheeler is close by.

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A correspondent of the *Confederacy*, writing from the extreme front, says that Johnston has blundered the enemy's right, driving him back beyond Dallas, with heavy loss. The centre and right of our army repulsing him at every engagement.

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Sherman is now attempting to move a large force on Johnston's right thus threatening above and below. This, however, will prove a failure.

Johnston has got his just where he wants to make the fight to save Atlanta. Every advantage—except in numbers—Johnston has, and will avail himself of it.

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